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SUBJECT: ARA WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS, AUGUST 9-15

1. INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC.

THE SECRETARY AND AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG HEADED A 13-
MEMBER U.S. DELEGATION TO THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT
ANTONIO GUZMAN IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AUGUST 16.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY VAKY, AID ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
VALDEZ, AND LT. GEN. MCAULIFFE WERE AMONG OTHER MEMBERS
OF THE PRESTIGIOUS U.S. DELEGATION, SYMBOLIZING OUR
STRONG SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY IN THE HEMISPHERE. GUZMAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 211374

HOSTED A PRIVATE LUNCHEON FOR THE SECRETARY AND OTHER
MEMBERS OF OUR DELEGATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS INAUGUR-
ATION, WHICH REPRESENTED THE FIRST PEACEFUL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL TRANSFER OF POWER FROM ONE ELECTED GOVERN-
MENT TO ANOTHER IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN THIS CENTURY.
THE ATMOSPHERE IN SANTO DOMINGO WAS ONE OF NATIONAL JOY
AND CELEBRATION.

2. CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITIES -

A) THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATION BILL, PASSED 223-167 BY THE HOUSE ON AUGUST 14, HAS EMERGED WITH

RELATIVELY MINOR CUTS FOR ARA PROJECTS. REPRESENTATIVE HARKIN'S (D-IOWA) PROPOSED ACROSS-THE-BOARD CUT OF 2 , NOT TO AFFECT ITEMS THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN CUT BY 2 (IMET, IDA, FMS, IDB), PREVAILED OVER HARSHER AMENDMENTS OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVES YOUNG (R-FLA.) (A 2 CUT ON EVERYTHING, INCLUDING ITEMS ALREADY CUT) AND MILLER (R-OHIO) (AN 8 ACROSS-THE-BOARD CUT).

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN ASHBROOK'S (R-OHIO) AMENDMENT TO EXTEND THE PROHIBITION ON AID TO CUBA ALREADY IN THE BILL TO SPECIFICALLY COVER "INDIRECT" ASSISTANCE PASSED IN A VOICE VOTE. HOWEVER, REPRESENTATIVE HANSEN'S (R-IDA.) AMENDMENT, TO CUT OFF ALL ASSISTANCE TO PANAMA, WAS DEFEATED 202-172.

THE BILL NOW GOES FOR MARKUP TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE. IT IS EXPECTED TO REACH THE SENATE FLOOR ON ABOUT SEPTEMBER 12.

B) ARA DAS JOHN BUSHNELL WAS THE LEAD WITNESS AT HEARINGS BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON U.S. RATIFICATION OF PROTOCOL I OF THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO.
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PAGE 03 STATE 211374

PROTOCOL I OF THE TREATY DEALS WITH THE OBLIGATIONS OF NON-LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE TERRITORIES WITHIN THE NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE. (U.S., U.K., NETHERLANDS AND FRANCE). ALSO TESTIFYING WERE CHARLES VAN DOREN (ACDA), JOHN MCGIFFERT (ISA) AND BRIGADIER GENERAL GRAHAM (JCS).

BUSHNELL IN HIS TESTIMONY FOCUSED ON THE MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF THE TREATY ITSELF. HE STRESSED THE CONCEPT OF "COMPLETENESS" AND POINTED OUT THAT U.S. ADHERENCE TO THE TREATY WOULD NOT ONLY SUPPORT A GOOD IDEA BUT BE A KEY TO FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY BY THE LATIN AMERICAN SIGNATORIES.

QUESTIONING BY SENATORS GLENN (D-OHIO) AND SARBANES (D-MD) FOCUSED ON THE SOVIET STATEMENT THAT ACCOMPANIED THEIR SIGNING-OF ANOTHER PROTOCOL TO THE TREATY. IN THAT STATEMENT THE SOVIET UNION MAINTAINED THAT TRANSIT RIGHTS FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS WERE NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE GOALS OF THE TREATY. OUR POSITION IS THAT THE RIGHT OF TRANSIT AND TRANSPORT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS NOT AFFECTED BY THE TREATY OR ITS PROTOCOLS. WE WILL BE SUPPLYING FURTHER INFORMATION

TO THE COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT OUR VIEW BEFORE IT MAKES ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONGRESS.

C) AT A HEARING OF THE HOUSE SUB COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS ON AUGUST 19, HA DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, ADDRESSED THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ARGENTINA. THE FOCUS OF THE HEARING WAS THE IMPACT OF HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES ON ARMS TRANSFERS IN THE HEMISPHERE.

IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS BY REP. BURKE (R-FLA.) DERIAN STATED THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAD BROKEN THE BACK OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. SHE EMPHASIZED THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAS ACKNOWLEDGED PUBLICLY THAT, EXCEPT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 211374

FOR SMALL GROUPS, TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS AS A WHOLE HAVE BEEN BROKEN.

CHAIRMAN YATRON (D-PA.) ASKED HOW WE HAVE ENCOURAGED IMPROVEMENTS IN ARGENTINA. DERIAN SAID WE WERE IN CONSTANT COMMUNICATION WITH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT, AND THAT WE KEPT THEM FULLY INFORMED ABOUT OUR ATTITUDES.

IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER YATRON QUESTION, DERIAN PROVIDED A BRIEF RUNDOWN OF THE PRESENT HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ARGENTINA, CITING CONTINUING ABDUCTIONS, DETENTIONS WITHOUT CHARGE AND EXECUTIONS. SHE CITED POSITIVELY THE RELEASE OF PEN NAMES AND THE RESTORATION OF THE RIGHT OF OPTION, NOTING ITS MINIMAL USE THUS FAR, AND VOICED HOPE THAT THE IAHRC VISIT WOULD FINALLY BE SCHEDULED. BUT IN GENERAL, SHE STATED, THE PICTURE WAS BLEAK.

IN ANSWER TO OTHER QUESTIONS, SHE AGREED TO PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF THE SITUATION IN COLOMBIA FOR THE RECORD, EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE EVOLUTION TOWARD DEMOCRACY IN PERU WOULD BRING ABOUT A REDUCTION IN THEIR ARMS PURCHASES, AND DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON STEPS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN AGAINST CHILE IF THAT GOVERNMENT DOES NOT COOPERATE FURTHER IN THE LETELIER CASE.

3. ARA WEEKLY ISSUE: THE BUILDING CONFRONTATION WITH ARGENTINA.

THE ARGENTINE JUNTA IS RAPIDLY DIVERSIFYING ITS INTERNATIONAL TIES, AND MAY BE PREPARING TO MOVE AGAINST KEY U.S. POLICIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND ELSEWHERE.

THOUGH PARTLY A RETURN TO TRADITIONAL ARGENTINE POSITIONS, THE SHIFT IS DRAWING BITTER FORCE FROM THE CONVICTION THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 05 STATE 211374

THE U.S. DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ARGENTINA, AND MAY BE INCAPABLE OF IT. THERE IS A GROWING SUSPICION THAT NOTHING

SHORT OF THE ADOPTION OF U.S.-STYLE POLITICAL DEMOCRACY WILL MAKE US HAPPY, AND THAT THEY FEEL IS SIMPLY NOT FEASIBLE.

WHATEVER THE CAUSES, THE REACTION IS SEVERE, IS INCREASINGLY GROUNDED IN ARGENTINE PUBLIC OPINION, AND COULD HAVE SERIOUS EFFECT ON BROADER U.S. INTERESTS. UNLIKE THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC OR NICARAGUA, ARGENTINA IS NOT A DEPENDENT CLIENT, BUT A TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED, RESOURCE-RICH COUNTRY WITH HISTORICAL LINKS ELSEWHERE AND REAL ALTERNATIVES TO DEPENDENCE ON THE U.S. FIRST STEPS HAVE PREDICTABLY BEEN TOWARD EUROPE FOR ARMS AND THE THIRD WORLD FOR POLITICAL SUPPORT. ARGENTINA ENJOYS LARGE TRADE SURPLUSES WITH BOTH JAPAN AND THE SOVIET UNION, AND IS NATURALLY UNDER PRESSURE TO REDIRECT IMPORTS IN THOSE DIRECTIONS.

MORE OMINOUSLY, ARGENTINA HAS THE POTENTIAL TO DISRUPT MANY U.S. MULTILATERAL POLICY OBJECTIVES. ARGENTINA IS ACTIVE IN THE OAS, UN, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. IT HAS REAL CLOUT ON:

--NUCLEAR ENERGY: ALREADY AN EXPORTER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, ARGENTINA HAS NOT COMPLETED AN IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT--AND HAS JUST ASSUMED THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT'S (NAM) NEW COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY. A DECISION TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS NOW POSSIBLE.

--REGIONAL SECURITY: AS A SIGNATORY OF BOTH AYACUCHO AND THE RIO TREATY, ARGENTINA COULD SABOTAGE CONVENTIONAL ARMS RESTRAINT EFFORTS OR EVEN DESTROY THE FRAMEWORK FOR COLLECTIVE SECURITY AND PEACEKEEPING.

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PAGE 06 STATE 211374

--THE THIRD WORLD: ARGENTINA HAS BEEN AN INFLUENTIAL SWING MEMBER OF THE NAM: AT BELGRADE, FOREIGN MINISTER MONTES DELIVERED A BLISTERING AND BARELY VEILED ATTACK ON U.S. POLICIES AS "A NEW FORM OF IMPERIALIST INTERVENTION." ARGENTINA'S LATEST MOVES AND ITS SEARCH FOR OPTIONS PRESENTS AN AGONIZING DILEMMA: ARE THERE WAYS

TO ADVANCE OUR HUMAN RIGHTS GOALS WITHOUT SERIOUS, LONG-
RANGE DISRUPTION OF RELATIONS WITH THE MOST POWERFUL
SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY OF SOUTH AMERICA? NOT FINDING
THE RIGHT ANSWER COULD BE COSTLY. VANCE

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